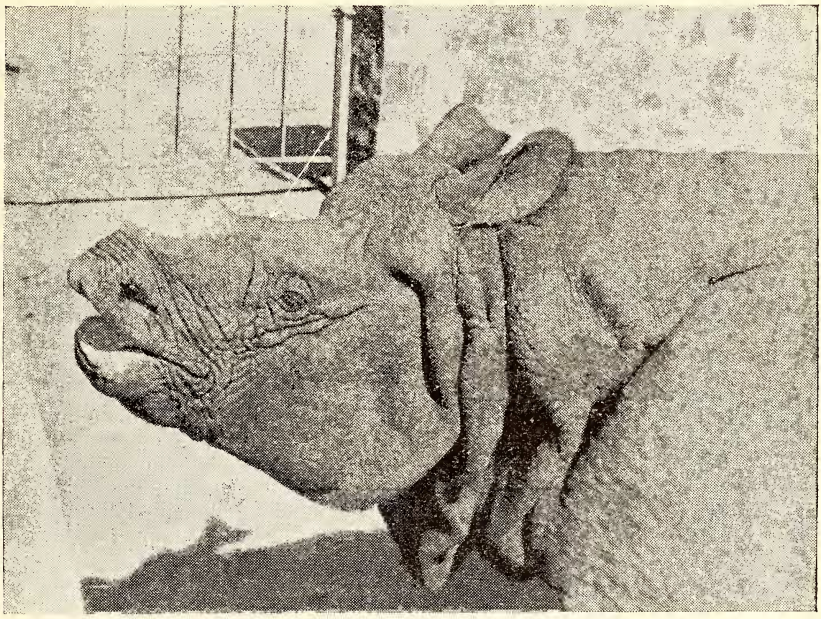
3. ABNORMAL SITE OF HORN-GROWTH IN *RHINOCEROS UNICORNIS* LINN.

(*With a photo*)

In June of this year I received from the Honorary Secretary (Mr. Humayun Abdulali) two samples of material removed from the head of a captive Indian Onehorned Rhinoceros (*R. unicornis*) living in the Bombay Zoo. One sample comprised a clipping from the normal anterior horn which, as is commonly the case in captive specimens, had been rubbed down by the animal almost to the general level of the muzzle. The second sample was taken from an irregular horny growth which had arisen between the base of the normal horn and the forehead—approximately midway.



Sections from the material from the abnormal site examined microscopically prove to be identical in structure with normal horn-laminated strands of keratin.

The question naturally arises as to whether this secondary growth is compensatory for the loss of the normal horn from the excessive degree of friction to which it is subjected in captive animals. But whether the answer to this be affirmative or negative, it is of interest to note that it is at this site that a second horn normally grows in the two African Rhinoceroses (*Diceros bicornis* and *Ceratotherium*

simum) as well as in one smaller Asiatic species, the rare *Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*.

In connection with the rubbing down of the anterior horn Grzimek (1956)[1] remarks that captive rhinoceroses shed their horns about once every ten years and it takes approximately a year to become renewed.

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON,
REGENT'S PARK,
LONDON, N.W. 1,
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W. C. OSMAN HILL

4. RE-DISCOVERY OF THE SMALLER ASIATIC ONEHORNED RHINOCEROS (*RHINOCEROS SONDAICUS* DESMAREST) IN MALAYA

(*With a plate*)

Thanks to the helpful co-operation of Mr. Loke Wan-Tho of Singapore we reproduce two unique photographs of this 'extinct' rhinoceros obtained in Malaya under the most extraordinary circumstances. According to *The Straits Times* of Singapore (March 22, 1957) where the photographs were first published, they were taken by one Mr. P. G. Bazin of the Lima Blas Oil Palm Estate at Slim River in southern Perak. Ironically enough, the photographer had no idea of what he had in front of his camera! The young animal in the picture was identified by Mr. H. J. Kitchener, the Chief Game Warden of Malaya. In the account given by Mr. Bazin to *The Straits Times* it seems that the animal was first seen by the estate labourers, wallowing in a swamp by a field. It did not appear to be frightened but just got up from the wallow and slowly walked away regardless of the barking of dogs and chivvying by Mr. Bazin's Alsatian. The animal is said to have been followed for two hours along a forest road in a jeep at a distance of 10 yards behind, before it turned off into the jungle and disappeared.

The Smaller Onehorned, or Javan, Rhinoceros (*R. sondaicus*) was found in India within recent times but now appears to be extinct. In the last century it was recorded from the Rajmahal Hills (?), Sikkim Terai, Sunderbans and 'in the forest along the Mahanaddy River'. It was reported as frequenting swampy ground in the Sunderbans as well as dense hill forest up to altitudes of 4000 ft.

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[1] Grzimek, B. (1956): NO ROOM FOR WILD ANIMALS, Thames & Hudson, London. (translated from Kein Platz für Wilde Tiere).